Survey conducted by the Botanical Survey of India in Andhra Pradesh

1036. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has recently conducted any survey in Andhra Pradesh for identification, exploration and assessment of plant resources; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Identification, exploration and assessment plant of resources all over the country including Andhra Pradesh is the respensibility of Botanical Survey of India. Recent survey in Andhra Pradesh include ethnobotanical studies in the tribal areas of Adilabad, East Godavari, Karim-nagar, Khammam Kurnool Mehboobnagar, Visakhapatnam, Vizanagram, Warangal and West Godavari Districts and 800 specimens were collected identified and analysed of which 40 species used by tribals appear to have potential for utilisation.

Flora of Nallamalai (Kurnool District) has been published.

District Flora Survey has been completed for Krishna and Kurnool Districts. Work is in progress for Cuddapah, Nalgonda, Prakasam and Visakhapatnam Districts.

Rural Rehabilitation Extension centre at Ludhiana

@1037. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the matter of setting up of Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centre at Ludhiana in Punjab; and

(b) what are the basic objects of the Centre, the area of coverage and the percentage of jobs for the handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centres (RRECs), attached to Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped, Ludhiana, have already been set up at Kapurthala and Hoshiarpur, in Punjab.

(b) The main objectives of the Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centres are to:—

(i) locate the physically handicapped, who are in need of vocational rehabilitation survices;

(ii) provide assistance to the handicapped in obtaining artificial limbs.

(iii) assist the handicaped in obtaining suitable training and placement.

Rehabilitation services at RRECs are generally available to the handicapped persons of the area. Three percent vacancies in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in Central Government are reserved for the handicapped.

Amounts allocated for wasteland development

1038. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on wastelands development during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent on this account during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The mount spent in Social Forestry including wasteland during 1984-85 and amount allocated during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and 1987-88 are given in the attached statement.

@Previously Unstarred Question 744, transferred from the 31st March, 1987.